



# EVILS OF CREDIT RECTIFIED

From the 1904 sales catalogue of  
Thistle Rubber Type Co.,  
Sombra, Ontario

“**ALUMINUM CHECKS** stamped with raised letters on both sides, same as a coin. No more Dirty, Greasy, Germ-soaked Cardboard Tickets. Aluminum Checks are cheaper in the end as they last a lifetime, besides being always clean, and therefore more sanitary.

“On the one side being the name, business and address; on the reverse side is the amount each check is good for *in trade*. We make these checks in all shapes - round, octagonal, square, scalloped edges, etc. Checks, if desired, may be made of Brass at same prices. Checks made of Copper or German Silver 50 per cent extra.

“These checks are designed to correct the evils of the CREDIT SYSTEM. The merchant who has been giving credit instead of charging up each item, entering in pass books, making statements, etc., simply gives his customer say \$5, \$10 or \$20 in checks, good for trade only, and charges this ONE ITEM: or if the merchant prefers he may take his customer's note for the amount given, which can be discounted at a bank, thus the merchant may get CASH IN ADVANCE for his goods. The customer then pays for what he gets in checks, the same as if he were dealing on a cash basis. Thus is saved all annoyance of disputed accounts, losses caused by forgetting to make charges, etc., labor and time consumed in book-keeping, making out bills, etc., is thus reduced to a minimum.

“These checks, being transferable, customers getting them can readily make deals with their friends and neighbors, and pay in checks on the merchant's store which means many new customers, the checks being redeemable in merchandise only.

“When the merchant receives produce from his customers, instead of giving written Due Bills, making entry in books, etc., he simply pays his customers in Aluminum Checks and the transaction is closed on a practically CASH BASIS. In making future purchases the customer pays for his goods with checks.

“Do not forget that many of the checks issued will be lost or kept as Souvenirs, Pocket Pieces, etc. You are therefore the gainer, as you do not have to redeem them, and as you have been paid the full face value of each Check. Every check so disposed of is a direct gain to you.”

<b>PRICE</b>	Per	100	200	300	500	1000
<b>LIST</b>	1c or 5c size	2.00	3.50	5.00	7.50	13.00
	10c size	2.50	4.00	5.50	8.00	14.00
	25c size	3.00	5.25	7.50	10.50	18.50
	50c size	3.50	6.25	8.75	13.25	23.00
	\$1.00 size	4.00	7.25	10.25	15.50	28.00

continued on page 8

# EDITORIAL

The Thistle Rubber Type Co. catalogue originally appeared in an issue of CeeTee, the publication of the Canadian Token Collectors Association. This is one of the items that I found while going through my files and storage boxes. It provides an insight into the thought process that surrounds the use of tokens.

The text of this catalogue is reproduced, without the illustrations. The major portions of the price lists are also included. They also offered baggage checks, key tags and dog license tags.

It is interesting to note that the idea that they keep the customer coming back is not a new one. Further, the thought of someone keeping a token as a souvenir, when 1 Cent actually was worth something, seems a bit far fetched! Tokens were lost, tokens left town with visitors that failed to spend them, but I just have a hard time accepting that very many were kept as souvenirs.

We have always depended on readers to provide a good portion of what we publish. Dig through those old files, and find something to share with your fellow readers. We are in need of articles of an "Alaskan" nature. We have some interesting material for articles on the numismatics of polar exploration, Tierra del Fuego and the Falkland Islands.

Kenton update: We visited with him on this 18th birthday and he is doing really well. We are looking forward to a home pass in March, and return home after Parent/Child 2 seminar in May. This program is a life saver. Contact me if you would like more information.

Editor - Dick Hanscom

Associate Editor - Jerry Cleworth

Anchorage Correspondent -

Canadian Correspondent - Jerry Remick

Yukon Correspondent - Jim Robb

Scandinavian Correspondent - Jorgen Somod

Subscription Rates: (all first class or airmail)

United States -	\$15 per year
Canada -	\$18 per year
Elsewhere -	\$35 per year

Collector's Advertising Rates:

1 page - \$15	1/2 page - \$8	1/4 page - \$5
1/8 page (business card size) - \$15 for 5 issues		

Classified ads: 20 cents per line.

Commercial advertisers: write for rates

# HOPE GOLD STRIKE



These medallions were designed by a former member of the Totem Coin Club, Magdaline Uzzell. These medallions were authorized on January 26, 1967, but weren't released until a few months later.

Hope was the site of the first recorded gold strike in 1894. Later, people from Hope found gold mining implements left by the early Russian Explorers.

Hope is located on the south side of Turnagain Arm, 90 hard driving miles from Anchorage. Hope is just about the same as it was in 1894 with its log buildings. It is a place you have to see for yourself. You can still pan for gold in the creek and get "colors" out of it.

These medallions were struck in three types of metals, mintages shown, and prices at time of issue:

Golden bronze	1,500	\$2.00
Oxidized bronze	1,500	\$3.00
Sterling silver (in sets only)	100	\$40.00

On the sterling silver medals, a small Hope nugget was glued in the miner's gold pan. Except for 12 sets there were no nuggets on the golden bronze or oxidized bronze. This makes five different varieties in this series. They are one of the nicest sets in the Centennial series.

-Fred Glatt

## A.Y.T. CO.

Jerry Schimmell of San Francisco writes: I'm slowly working my way through the San Francisco Call for 1898. I've located a number of references to the **Alaska-Yukon Transportation Co.** The name appeared regularly in various articles about travel to the goldfields from S.F. Nothing about St. Hubert as yet, however the presence of a British steamship in California by that name at the turn of the century is strong circumstantial evidence.

# EVILS of Credit, cont.

## We Make a Special Offer of Assorted Lots.

Assortment No. 1

100 each 1, 5, 10, 25 and 50c size \$12.00

Assortment No. 2

100 each 1, 5, 10, 25, 50c and \$1.00 \$15.00

Assortment No. 3

200 each 1, 5, 10 and 25c

100 each 50c and \$1.00 \$20.00

Assortment No. 4

500 each 1, 5, 10 and 25c

250 each 50c and \$1.00 \$46.50

"If no 1c checks are required, we will double the quantity of 5c checks."

## Merchants' Special Sets.

"Instead of these checks being made in graduated sizes,

each denomination is made a different shape, so that they may be easily distinguishable, the different shapes being as shown. On one side is the merchant's name, address, etc., on the reverse side the amount each check is good for in trade."

Assortment A

100 each 1, 5, 10, 25, 50c and \$1.00 \$11.00

Assortment B

200 each 1, 5, 10 and 25c

100 each 50c and \$1.00 \$15.25

"In these assortments of MERCHANT'S SPECIAL SETS we will assort them to suit without extra charge. For instance, if no 1c checks are wanted we will double the quantity of *any other* denomination.

\* \* \* \* \*

This catalogue from nearly 100 years ago shows how inexpensive tokens were. Assortment 4 above could set a merchant up for trade very nicely!

# JOB ORDER FOR TANANA TOKEN!

This was originally shown in the April/May 1991 issue, and is worthy of being shown again. George F. Bemis of The Headquarters in Tanana purchased 520 checks for \$20.68 from Meyer Bros., Seattle.

G.M. 132 JEWELRY #2541 A.

Article *Checks* Price  
 Description *Aluminum Checks* 100 @ 48¢ JM  
*Good for one Drink or Cigar* 100 @ 32¢ JM  
*Headquarters Tanana Alaska*

*Geo F Bemis Tanana Alaska Chg 207542*

WORK	Date	W. No.	Time	Rate	Cost	Material	Quantity	Quality	Price	Cost	Remarks	
Press Work	7-10	127	3.50	3.4	1.19	Aluminum 10lb			7.6	7.50		
Jeweler												
Engraver												
Chaser												
Setter												
WRAPPING ROOM		173	2.15	2.0	4.3	Aluminum 10lb	2.44	1.45	4.35	9.90		
Enameler												
Polisher												
Shop Ex.					1.64				4.95	9.90		
TOTAL COST LABOR						TOTAL COST MATERIAL						
32.8						17.40						
520 @ 40¢ TOTAL COST 20.68												
WORK	Date	W. No.	Time	Rate	Cost	Material	Quantity	Quality	Price	Cost	Remarks	
Press Work												
Jeweler												
Engraver												
Chaser												
Setter												
Plater												
Enameler												
Polisher												
Shop Ex.												
TOTAL COST LABOR						TOTAL COST MATERIAL						
TOTAL COST												

HEADQUARTERS TANANA ALASKA

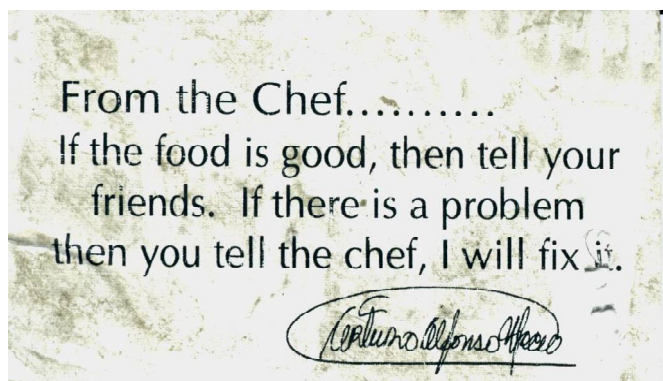
GOOD FOR ONE DRINK OR CIGAR



# PAPER POTPOURRI



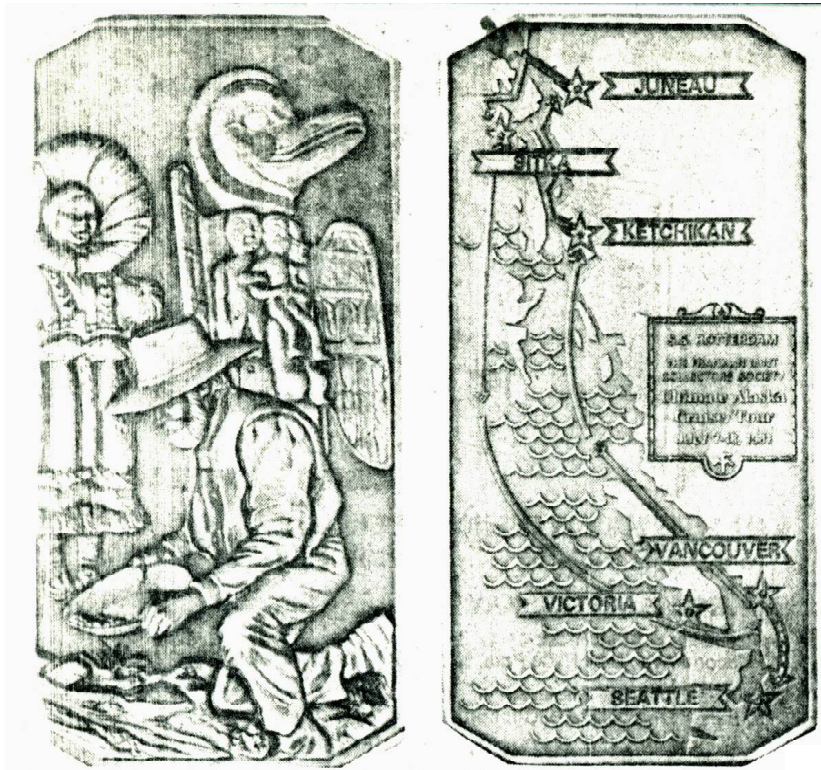
**MATANUSKA VALLEY:** Co-op Dollars from patronage with Matanuska Valley Farmers Co-operating Association. Matanuska Maid Products (Mat-Maid trademark). All printed in red, on a series 1935E silver certificate.



**FAIRBANKS:** Pedros & Giavana Burrito Meal Deal, punch card. Grey underprint with a person taking a siesta under a palm tree. It is impossible to keep up with all the punch cards, especially with all the espresso shops using them. Just happen to find this on the sidewalk, the other smudges are dirt.



# FOR THE RECORD



**ALASKA:** Another “file find”. Franklin Mint Collectors Society Alaska-Canada cruise aboard the S.S. Rotterdam of the Holland-America Line, July 7 - 18, 1983. Oxidized bronze, 51mm by 98 mm. Has anyone seen one of these??



**SKAGWAY:** Two encased cents. 1) Skagway, Sharing our future with our past, horseshoe shape. 2) Skagway, Alaska & Yukon, Canada, Working together makes good cents, EDC, round shape. (submitted by Kurt Kusters).



**COPPER CENTER, AK:** Copper Center Bar, Good for one drink, white on green plastic, 22mm.



**CORDOVA:** Club Bar, 25 cents and \$1.00. Black on blue and black on red plastic, respectively. 28mm.



**SKAGWAY:** Three different 32mm brass tokens for the White Pass & Yukon Railroad. 1) Engine/\$5 in trade, 2) 1982 Return to Steam/ blank, 3) Engine/return to steam, 1982. All incuse design, almost looks engraved.